SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 12 November 2006

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS or to www.zs6mrk.org and following the indicated links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with a relay on 3 695 kHz. (Other news readers please change to suit).

In the news today:

ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

TINUS LANGE 7066 TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

IARU TO PROMOTE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ON 18 NOVEMBER AND HAMNET WILL BE THERE

ALL EYES ON WORLD TELECOM CONFERENCE

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

The annual rememberance service for all the amateurs who have died in service of South Africa will be transmitted on the ARMI program today, 12 November, at 10:45 CAT (not 11:45 as stated in last week's bulletin). It will only be heard on many amateur HF, VHF and UHF frequencies and transmissions from Meyerton on 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. The service will be conducted by ds. Hannes Enslin, ZS6JDE, of Pretoria. We request that radio silence be observed during the transmission of the service.

TINUS LANGE 7066 TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Tinus Lange 7066 Technical Excellence Award and Tinus Lange 7066 Junior Technical Excellence Award is bestowed annually on the persons who submit a technical project in any of the following categories:

a. Design and/or construction of projects such as a pre-amp, SWR bridge, patching unit, automatic ID-er, practical antenna ideas, mast, portable gear, power supplies etc.

OR

b. Any software for use in Amateur Radio.

The submission must include the following: - the actual items (if size and mass allows it) or photographs (particularly in the case of antennas/mast etc) and a complete write-up in article form with illustrations/pictures ready for publication in Radio ZS.

The actual artefact and the supporting documentation - i.e. a press ready article for Radio ZS plus any other documents - and be delivered to the NARC not later than 16 February 2007. All entries will be displayed (where practical, otherwise photographs) at the AGM and the awards will be presented at the annual dinner. The two awards made are the Junior Technical Achievement Award (Under 25 years of age), a framed certificate and a cash award of R350, and the Technical Achievement Award, a framed certificate and a cash award of R350.

IARU TO PROMOTE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ON 18 NOVEMBER AND HAMNET WILL BE THERE

The IARU Region 1 will promote emergency communication with a Region wide exercise on 18 November 2006.

Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR, the coordinator for Emergency Communication for the IARU Region 1, said that the objectives of this exercise are to increase the interest among member societies in emergency communication, to test how usable the selected frequencies are across Region 1 and 3 and to create an opportunity for practice for international emergency communication between Region 1 member societies and special emergency communication groups.

Seppo said that the event is not a contest but rather an emergency communications exercise.

The exercise, or EmCom party as he calls it, will take place simultaneously on all 3 the selected emergency frequencies namely 7 060, 14 300 and 21 360 kHz in the 40, 20 and 15 metre bands. In this exercise, the 17 and 80 metre band frequencies will not be used.

This exercise will take place between 11:00 and 15:00 UTC on Saturday the 18th November 2006.

The rules of the exercise can be viewed on www.sarl.org.za, click on Hamnet.

Francois Botha, the National Director of Hamnet, the SARL Emergency Communications group, invites amateurs to participate by establishing a network of as many South African stations as possible during the exercise.

For any further information, please contact Francois at 011 670-5260 or by e-mail to jfbotha@iburst.co.za. A follow-up exercise is planned for March/April 2007.

ALL EYES ON WORLD TELECOM CONFERENCE

The top event in the world of telecommunications this month is the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), which

opened in Antalya, Turkey on November 6 and scheduled to conclude on November 24. As the name implies, the "Plenipot" is the ultimate authority in the ITU. Every four years, representatives of the Member States of the ITU meet to consider proposed changes to the organisation's Constitution and Convention, adopt strategic and financial plans, and elect the senior management of the organization. Approximately 2 000 attendees are expected.

Incumbent Secretary-General Yoshio Utsumi is not eligible to run for another term. A new Secretary-General will be elected from a field of six candidates including the current Deputy Secretary-General, Roberto Blois of Brazil, and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, Hamadoun Touré of Mali. They are also term-limited in their present positions and so must move "up or out". The other candidates are Marc Furrer of Switzerland, Matthias Kurth of Germany, Montasser Ouaili of Tunisia, and Muna Nijem of Jordan.

The Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, Valery Timofeev of the Russian Federation, is eligible for re-election and is unopposed. There are four candidates for each of the other three senior posts: ie. Deputy Secretary-General, Director of the Telecommunication, Standardization Bureau, and Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau.

Among the candidates for the 12 seats on the part-time Radio Regulations Board is Robert W. Jones, VE7RWJ. Bob served two terms as Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and subsequently served as a consultant to the IARU at the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference.

In addition to the election of these individuals, 46 Member States will be elected to the ITU Council. The Council meets annually and supervises the overall management and administration of the ITU between Plenipots.

Among the observers at the Plenipot will be IARU Vice President Tim Ellam, VE6SH and International Coordinator for Emergency Communications Hans Zimmermann, HB9AQS/F5VKP, each of whom will be present for half of the Conference.

The IARU member-society for Turkey, TRAC, has organized a demonstration station and exhibit of Amateur Radio emergency communications capabilities adjacent to the conference site.

SARL HEAD OFFICE EMAIL CRASHED

It happens to all of us at some time or other, but this time Murphy played havoc with the incoming Emails at the SARL Head Office. If you have sent an Email to admin@sarl.org.za during the past two weeks and have not received a reply, please resend the email. The system has been restored but in that process some emails may have disappeared in cyberspace. Who says computers never go wrong wrong wrong ……

CONTEST NEWS

SARL HF FIELD DAY

The second leg of the SARL HF Field Day will be run from 10:00 UTC on Saturday 18 November to 10:00 UTC on Sunday 19 November. CW and Phone may be used on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres. The exchange is a RS or RST report and the letter "S" for single operator, "M" for multi-operator or "G" for all single- or multi-operator stations that do not conform to field-station requirements. Power output is QRP (5 watt or less), low power (6 - 50 watt) or high power (51 - 100 watt).

The Port Elizabeth ARS is planning to have three multi-operator stations active, the Sasolburg ARC will be active from the Doornkloof Voortrekker farm, the East Rand ARC will be active from the Free State side of the Vaal Dam, the Hibiscus Coast ARC will be on the air from Ramsgate and the Bloemfontein RAC will also have a station on the air.

The closing date for log submissions is Monday 4 December 2006.

PEARS HF QSO PARTY

The annual PEARS HF QSO Party will be run over the weekend of 9 and 10 December with phone activity on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres.

The rules for both contests are available in the 2006 Contest Manual and will be published in HF Happenings.

HF PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that solar activity is expected to be at very low to low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to range from quiet to unsettled levels on 24 till 25 November. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 20.

20 m and 40 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of brief 20 and 15 m openings towards the East from about 08:00 CAT.

From about 16:00, 15 and 20 m may open towards Europe. From 19:00, 15, 20 and 80 m may open to the USA.

For the CW and digital enthusiasts it may also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Today 12 November - Remembrance day service included in ARMI program at 10:45; 18/19 - November Second leg of SARL HF field day competition; 30 November - Closing date for submission of nominations for Council Members, SARL awards and motions for next year's AGM; 8/9 - December Pears HF QSO Party; 16 February 2007 - Closing date for submission of entries for Tinus Lange 7066 Technical Excellence Awards.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in

www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by Gustav, ZS6BWN.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

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